

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03787 212212Z

64

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3787

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, GH, CA

SUBJ: GHANAIAN APPROACH TO CANADA ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 231168

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. GHANAIAN FONMIN ROGER FELLI RAISED ANGOLAN UNGA MEMBERSHIP QUESTION DURING SEPTEMBER 21 DISCUSSIONS WITH GOC EXTAFF OFFICIALS. GOC OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT ANGOLAN APPLICATION. FONMIN FELLI REQUESTED THAT GOC EXERCISE INFLUENCE WITH US SEEKING FAVORABLE US DECISION. HE ADDED THAT UNFAVORABLE DECISION COULD DAMAGE US POSTURE IN THE AREA AND JEOPARDIZE POSSIBLE SUCCESS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. GOC OFFICIALS RESPONDED THAT THEY DID NOT HAVE THAT TYPE OF INFLUENCE WITH US AND SUGGESTED THAT FONMIN FELLI RAISE QUESTION DIRECTLY WHEN IN US. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO ROSS FRANCIS, DIRECTOR, UN POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF EXTAFF, DURING SEPT 21 MEETING WITH EXTAFF OFFICIALS GHANAIAN FONMIN FELLI RAISED SUBJECT OF ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP IN UNGA.

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03787 212212Z

3. FRANCISE SAID THAT THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK

PLACE. GOC OFFICIALS NOTED THAT GOC RECOGNIZES ANGOLA AND THAT IT WOULD SUPPORT ANGOLAN CANDIDACY. FONMIN FELLI THEN ASKED FOR GOC IMPRESSIONS ON LIKELY US POSITION. FRANCIS REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD US WAS AT LEAST WILLING TO "RECONSIDER" THE QUESTION. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT GOC HAD NO ESTIMATE ON LIKELY US DECISION AFTER RECONSIDERATION.

4. FONMIN FELLI THEN OBSERVED THAT GOC HAD SOME INFLUENCE IN US AND REQUESTED THAT GOC INTERVENE RECOMMENDING FAVORABLE US DECISION. HE ADDED THAT US DECISION AGAINST ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP WOULD DAMAGE US POSUTE IN AFRICA AND COULD HAVE DIRECT INFLUENCE ON SUCCESS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

5. GOC OFFICIALS RESPONDED BY INDICATING THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE THE TYPE OF INFLUENCE WITH US THAT GHANAIS ASSUMED AND THEY RECOMMENDED THAT FONMIN FELLI PURSUE ISSUE DIRECTLY WITH US OFFICIALS DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT.

6. COMMENT: FRANCIS INDICATED THAT GHANAIS RAISING OF ANGOLAN ISSUE WAS "NOT ENTIRELY OFFHAND". HE SAID THAT MEETING WAS GENERALLY WIDERANGING BUT THAT FONMIN FELLI MADE SPECIFIC POINT OF RAISING ANGOLAN QUESTION. HE ADDED THAT FONMIN FELLI'S COMMENT ABOUT DAMAGED US POSITION IN AFRICA CAUSED BY UNFAVORABLE DECISION ON ANGOLAN MEMBERSHIP WAS AN "OBSERVATION" NOT A THREAT. END COMMENT.
ENDERS

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